

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appn. No: To Be Assigned
Applicant: Robert Joseph Panek, Jr. et al.
Filed: Herewith
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR UNWINDING A NEEDLE PORTION
TC/A.U.:
Examiner:

Divisional of:

Appn. No: 09/934,298
Applicant: Robert Joseph Panek, Jr. et al.
Filed: August 21, 2001
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR UNWINDING A NEEDLE PORTION
TC/A.U.: 3728
Examiner: Shian Tinh Nhan Luong

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith.

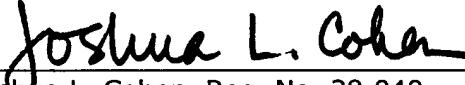
Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the patents and publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 are not required to be provided, because they were cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. 09/934,298, filed August 21, 2001, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,



Joshua L. Cohen, Reg. No. 38,040
Christopher M. Spletzer, Reg. No. 52,240
Attorneys for Applicants

JLC/CMS/lcf

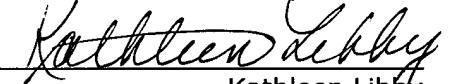
Enclosures: PTO Form 1449

Dated: August 1, 2003

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Kathleen Libby

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO

Complete if Known

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 2

Attorney Docket No. TCO1-101US1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (If known)			
		US-4,466,538	08/21/1984	Gianni	Entire Document
		US-4,488,643	12/18/1984	Pepper	Entire Document
		US-4,494,652	01/22/1985	Nelson et al.	Entire Document
		US-4,576,281	03/18/1986	Kirksey	Entire Document
		US-4,801,013	01/31/1989	Bruno	Entire Document
		US-4,986,811	01/22/1991	Thead et al.	Entire Document
		US-4,989,307	02/05/1991	Sharpe et al.	Entire Document
		US-5,069,667	12/03/1991	Freundlich et al.	Entire Document
		US-5,092,462	03/03/1992	Sagstetter et al.	Entire Document
		US-5,188,598	02/23/1993	Thead et al.	Entire Document
		US-5,201,417	04/13/1993	Outlaw, III	Entire Document
		US-5,322,164	06/21/1994	Richardson et al.	Entire Document
		US-5,409,112	04/25/1995	Sagstetter	Entire Document
		US-5,409,113	04/25/1995	Richardson et al.	Entire Document
		US-5,474,181	12/12/1995	Shillington et al.	Entire Document
		US-5,573,113	11/12/1996	Shillington et al.	Entire Document
		US-5,857,569	01/12/1999	Hoftman et al.	Entire Document
		US-6,019,218	02/01/2000	Radicot et al.	Entire Document
		US-6,027,392	02/22/2000	Ruhlman	Entire Document
		US-6,062,001	05/16/2000	Kunik	Entire Document

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If known)				
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

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⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

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The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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SHEET 2 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Robert Joseph Panek, Jr.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	TCO1-101US1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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